

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: PETROVIC, Zmaj

SERIAL NO.: (International Appn No. PCT/FR03/01148)

FILED: (Intl. Filing Date 11 April 2003)

TITLE: CONVEYOR UNIT WITH ACCUMULATION OF RECEPTACLES SUCH AS BOTTLES

Preliminary Amendment: CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently amended) Conveyor unit with accumulation of receptacles (2) such as bottles, said conveyor unit comprising:

an accumulation table (3);

onto which a feed conveyor (5) ~~opens out~~ opening out and onto the table upstream from the table; and

a passive aligned, whilst downstream (7), this from the table (3) supplies and being supplied said receptacles (2) ~~onto a~~ from the table, said passive aligner (8) ~~designed capable of~~ conveying the ~~latter~~ receptacles in one single row to a processing unit downstream (9), ~~characterized in that the, wherein said~~ passive aligner (8) runs parallel to ~~the~~ said accumulator table (3), ~~the latter, said accumulator table further~~ comprising, in ~~the~~ a downstream extension thereof, a transfer conveyor (17), on which the receptacles (2) are pushed laterally by a guiding rail (15) towards said passive aligner (8) onto a juxtaposed transition conveyor (19) running in ~~the~~ an opposite direction which defines the feed conveyor for said passive aligner (8).

2. (Currently amended) Conveying unit with accumulation according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that the~~ wherein said transition conveyor (19) is topped with a guiding rail (21) ~~provided for pushing back the receptacles transversally with respect to their progression thereof, this~~ and in a direction opposite to ~~the one that is imparted to them~~ the receptacles by a guiding rail (14) above a table (11) corresponding to the passive aligner (8).

3. (Currently amended) Conveying unit with accumulation according to ~~one of the preceding~~ claims, characterized in that the Claim 1, wherein said transition conveyor (19) ~~is formed by~~ is comprised of a juxtaposition of chains (22) ~~which have~~ having an increasing speed gradient in a transversal direction while separating from the transfer conveyor (17).